## RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)

## PROJECT FACT SHEET

ORIGINAL DATE: 29 SEPTEMBER 1998 TAG REVIEW DATE: 12 JANUARY 1999

1. SITE NAME: Walker Air Force Base,

Demolition Bombing Range #35

SITE NUMBER: K06NM049900

LOCATION:

City: Roswell
County: Chavez
State: New Mexico

PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM049901

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC's:

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT: GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION:

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2. SITE DESCRIPTION: The former Walker AFB, Demolition Bombing Range #35 consisted of approximately 1000 acres and is located in Chaves County, New Mexico, 37 miles east of the city of Roswell. The site lies south of U.S. Highway 380 in Sections 10, 11, 14, and 15, Township 11 South (T11S, Range 30 East (R30E). Prior to

use as a Demolition Bombing Range during WWII, these lands were publicly owned and used for livestock grazing. Currently the land is owned and controlled by the Department on Interior, Bureau of Land Management. The BLM grants grazing permits and oil and gas leases on these lands to private entities.

3. SITE HISTORY: Walker Air Force Base was originally established in 1942 as Roswell Army Air Field (RAAF). While operating under control of the West Coast Air Corps Training Center, RAAF became an advanced flying school during the WWII era. The flying school was originally established with 24 practice or precision bombing ranges used in support of the RAAF mission. Demolition Bombing Range #35 was one of the original ranges acquired in 1942. In 1945, the property was declared surplus and on 27 March 1947, these lands were transferred back to the DOI.

This range was used by bombardiers while in training at RAAF. Normal training procedures required that a student drop about 100 practice bombs and 2 high explosive bombs. This FUDS was designated for high explosive bombs. The site investigation team observed very few debris as most of the area was sand dunes. Two arming vanes from M100 series bomb fuzes were observed during the visit on 4 June 1998. A second visit occurred on 15 September 1998, to investigate a triangular area identified by the photo interpreter as an area of possible craters. This area was actually "gyp(gypsum) outcrops" or "sand blowouts". No further surface evidence of past use as a demolition bombing range was observed.

Roswell AAF conducted CWM training for both students and permanent party personnel. There is no evidence that CWM training ever occurred on this FUDS. No formal documentation relating to decontamination of Walker AFB, Demolition Bombing Range #35 was located during the archives search.

## 5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size, Acres: Approximately 1000
Former Use: Demolition Bomb Range
Present Use: Livestock grazing

Probable End Use: Same as above and Possible gas/oil

leases

Ordnance Presence: Potential

Type: Bomb, GP, 100-pound AN-M30, HE

- **6. CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Walker AFB Demolition Bombing Range #35 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in September 1998.
- 7. STRATEGY: EE/CA (RAC 4)
- 8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group met and discussed this ASR on 12 January 1999 and deterimined an EE/CA for this entire site as there is a potential for unexploded 100 pound GP Bombs to be found just below the surface.

There are known Federally-and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species or natural communities.

- 9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA
- 10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only